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12-11-01

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

M. Hayakawa et al.

Group Art Unit: Not Assigned

Application No.: Div. of 09/583,919

Examiner: Not Assigned

Filed: November 12, 2001

Attorney Dkt. No.: 107350-00004

For: COAGULATING SEDIMENTATION APPARATUS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Date: November 12, 2001

Sir:

Prior to initial examination of the application, please amend the above-identified application as follows: (a marked-up version is attached hereto)

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-9.

Please amend claims 10-14 as follows:

10. (Amended) A coagulating sedimentation apparatus for precipitating and separating suspended solids, coagulated flocs or the like in a liquid to be treated, so as to clarify said liquid, said sedimentation apparatus comprising:

a sedimentation tank;

a chamber vertically disposed within said tank concentrically therewith, for introducing said liquid therein;

a distributor for distributing said liquid from said chamber into a sedimentation space between said tank and said chamber; and

a plurality of annular troughs concentrically arranged in an upper portion of said tank.

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